

Message Text

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44

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 041415Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8423

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 03581

EXDIS

BERLIN FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, TU, GR, GW

SUBJECT: FRG ARMS ASSISTANCE TO GREECE AND TURKEY

REF: BONN 3157 (NOTAL)

1. A FONOFF NATO DERTMENT WORKING-LEVEL OFFICIAL
CONFIRMED MARCH 3 THAT THE FRG DECISION TO SUPPLY ARMS
TO GREECE AND TURKEY HAS FORMALLY TAKEN EFFECT (REFTEL).
NO OBJECTIONS WERE RAISED BY ANY MINISTRY. THE PROBLEM
NOW IS TO DEVELOP SPECIFIC PLANS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE
DECISION. THE FRG IS RELUCTANT TO TAKE ACTION UNTIL
THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON CYPRUS HAS TAKEN
PLACE, AND IT MAY BE SOME TIME BEFORE A SPECIFIC PLAN
IS FINALIZED.

2. AFTER A COORDINATED, "BALANCED" PLAN IS DEVELOPED,
OUR SOURCE CONTINUED, BUNDESTAG FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND
BUDGET COMMITTEES WILL BE APPROACHED OH A HIGHLY
CONFIDENTIAL BASIS FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION. (COMMENT:
NEWSPAPER REPORTS ON FEBRUARY 26 INDICATED THAT THE
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CDU/CSU WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO THE RESUMPTIOH OF

ARMS SHIPMENTS TO GREECE AND TURKEY. THE REPORTS CONTINUED THAT 65 MILLION DM WAS AVAILABLE FOR TURKEY, BUT THAT ENTIRELY NEW FINANCIAL MEANS WOULD HAVE TO BE FOUND FOR GREECE.) THE OFFICIAL SAID RESTITUTION OF AID TO TURKEY IS RELATIVELY EASY WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE 7TH TRANCHE WITH THE TURKS RECEIVING BOTH NEW AND SURPLUS EQUIPMENT. THE GREEKS WOULD RECEIVE INITIALLY ONLY SURPLUS EQUIPMENT, WITH PERHAPS NEW EQUIPMENT BEING PROVIDED LATER WHEN FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS ARE WORKED OUT.

3. OUR SOURCE WAS RELUCTT TO INDICATE WHEN THE FRG WOULD MAKE A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING THE DECISION TO RESUME MILITARY ASSISTANCE. HE EMPHASIZED THE FRG INTENTION TO MOVE VERY CAREFULLY ON THIS MATTER.
HILLENBRAND

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